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THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 97 (a)

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ which states that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Recalling also the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 2/

Recalling with satisfaction the entry into force on 26 June 1987 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 3/

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

3/ Resolution 39/46, annex.

Recalling its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which it noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims of torture in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

Alarmed at the widespread occurrence of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Convinced that the struggle to eliminate torture includes the provision of assistance in a humanitarian spirit to the victims and members of their families,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 4/

1. Expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

2. Calls upon all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for initial as well as further contributions to the Fund;

3. Invites Governments to make contributions to the Fund, preferably on a regular basis, in order to enable the Fund to provide continuous support to projects that depend on recurrent grants;

4. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments that pledged a contribution to the Fund at the 1992 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

6. Expresses its appreciation to the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work it has carried out;

7. Also expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the support given to the Board of Trustees of the Fund by carrying out its decisions on an increasing number of projects;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials, to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its efforts to make the Fund and its humanitarian work better known and in its appeal for contributions.

4/ A/47/662.